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CLIMATE OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

IN a recent account of the Falkland Islands (Scot. Geogr. Mag., May, 1896, 241-252) mention is made of a striking effect of the high winds which are characteristic of the higher latitudes of the South Temperate Zone and are a marked feature of the climate of the Falklands. Owing to their being obliged constantly to beat against these violent winds, the inhabitants have acquired a peculiar gait that is so noticeable as to have gained for them the name of 'kelpers,' which is sometimes used as synonymous with 'natives.' R. DE C. WARD.
HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY.

RACIAL ELEMENTS IN ASSAM.

IN the *Times* of Assam, February 8, 1896, Mr. S. R. Peal gives the results of his extensive studies of the racial constitution of the Assamese people. The aboriginal inhabitants he believes to have been Dravidian, though at present he would not assign more than five per cent. to that element. They were overlaid by the intrusive Mon from the east, a monosyllabic stock, who in time were followed by a small invasion of Tibetans. All of these were weak and of low culture. The Hindu religions, the Aryan physique and the prevailing tongue were introduced by the immigration of Sanskrit-speaking conquerors at a remote epoch. They left such a profound impress on the earlier population and the existing Assamese language that Mr. Peal says of it: "With the exception of the Bengali, there is probably no derivative from the Sanskrit that bears a closer affinity to its parent." This was the extreme limit of the wave of Aryan migration which swept eastward across Bengal. The conquering Ahoms, from Siam, who in later centuries gained temporary control of Assam, exerted little permanent influence on its civilization or language.

THE TUPI LINGUISTIC STOCK.

THE eighteenth volume of the *Bibliothèque Linguistique Américaine* (Maison-neuve, Paris), which has just appeared, is a valuable member of the series. It presents the elements of a comparative grammar of the dialects of the Tupi linguistic stock of South America, prepared by the able pen of M. Lucien Adam, to whom we owe so many analyses of American tongues. The southern Tupi is known as the Guarani; and the 'Lingoa Geral,' spoken throughout Brazil, is a corrupt form of the same idiom. The stock is widely diffused, extending from Paraguay to Guiana, and for thousands of miles along the Amazon and its tributaries. Its literature is quite extended, the bibliography of it published in 1880 by Valle Cabral, numbering over three hundred titles.

M. Adam presents an analysis, carried through the principal dialects, of the phonetic laws of the stock, the expressions of the relations of possession and action (genitive and nominative), the pronouns, and an elaborate study of the conjugation. A comparative vocabulary with 358 titles is an extremely useful appendage.

The collation of the literature which he has utilized includes most of the best works, but I regret not to see included the excellent studies on the Neengatu of the late Mr. C. F. Hartt.

D. G. BRINTON.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE COLORS NAMED IN LITERATURE.

MR. HAVELOCK ELLIS has made (*Contemporary Review*, May) an interesting study of the color terms used by imaginative writers, which is a real contribution to scientific æsthetics. The fact that the Greeks did not name green and blue does not, of course, indicate (as Mr. Gladstone and others have alleged) that they could not see the more refrangible rays of the spectrum, but it does show a lack of interest in

	White.	Yellow.	Red.	Green.	Blue.	Black.	PREDOMINANT.
Mountain Chant.....	28	13	3	...	19	37	Black, white.
Wooring of Emer.....	34	3	48	14	Red, white.
Volsunga Saga.....	14	...	71	...	14	...	Red.
Isaiah, Job, Song of Songs..	18	4	29	33	...	15	Green, red.
Homer.....	21	21	7	2	...	49	Black, white-yellow.
Catullus.....	40	21	17	9	4	8	White, yellow.
Chaucer.....	34	10	28	14	1	13	White, red.
Marlowe.....	19	21	19	6	6	28	Black, yellow.
Shakespeare.....	22	17	30	7	4	20	Red, white.
Thomson.....	9	...	18	27	9	36	Black, green.
Blake.....	17	17	13	16	7	29	Black, white-yellow.
Coleridge.....	21	7	17	25	14	16	Green, white.
Shelley.....	17	19	11	21	21	11	Green-blue.
Keats.....	14	23	24	29	8	1	Green, red.
Wordsworth.....	14	18	10	35	11	12	Green, yellow.
Poe.....	8	32	20	12	4	24	Yellow, black.
Baudelaire.....	11	9	19	10	16	34	Black, red.
Tennyson.....	22	15	27	15	10	11	Red, white.
Rossetti.....	30	22	22	9	7	10	White, yellow.
Swinburne.....	28	18	28	16	6	4	Red, white.
Whitman.....	25	10	26	14	8	16	Red, white.
Pater.....	43	19	11	11	9	7	White, yellow.
Verlaine.....	20	15	24	9	14	18	Red, white.
Olive Schreiner.....	38	12	25	3	19	2	White, red.
D'Annunzio.....	15	11	46	7	14	6	Red, white.

these colors. Mr. Ellis's statistics are given in the above table, the number of times each of the colors is used by the author in selected passages being reduced to percentages.

Mr. Ellis makes a number of acute psychological and literary suggestions and concludes that a numerical study of color vision "possesses at least two uses in the precise study of literature. It is, first, an instrument for investigating a writer's personal psychology, by defining the nature of his æsthetic color vision. When we have ascertained a writer's color formula and his colors of prediction we can tell at a glance, simply and reliably, something about his view of the world which pages of description could only tell us with uncertainty. In the second place, it enables us to take a definite step in the attainment of a scientific æsthetic, by furnishing a means of comparative study. By its help we can trace the colors of the world as mirrored in literature from age to age, from country to country, and in finer shades among the writers of a single group. At least one broad and unexpected conclusion may be gathered from the tables here presented. Many foolish things have been written about the 'degeneration' of latter-day

art. It is easier to dogmatize when you think that you are safe from the evidence of precise tests. But here is a reasonably precise test. And the evidence of this test, at all events, by no means furnishes support for the theory of decadence. On the contrary, it shows that the decadence, if anywhere, was at the end of the last century, and that our own vision of the world is fairly one with that of classic times, with Chaucer's and with Shakespeare's. At the end of the nineteenth century we can say this for the first time since Shakespeare died."

GENERAL.

PROF. E. D. COPE has been elected an honorary member of the Academy of Sciences of Belgium.

Nature gives the following details regarding the approaching celebration of Lord Kelvin's jubilee as professor of natural philosophy in the University of Glasgow: On the evening of Monday, June 15th, at 8:30 p. m., the University will give a conversazione, when there will be an exhibit of Lord Kelvin's inventions. On Tuesday, June 16th, addresses will be presented to Lord Kelvin by delegates from home and foreign university

bodies, from several of the learned Societies of which he is a member, from student delegates from other universities, and from the students and graduates of the University of Glasgow. It is expected that the honorary degree of LL.D. will be conferred on the same day on several of the distinguished foreign visitors. On Tuesday evening, June 16th, the City will give a banquet to Lord Kelvin, to which the visitors who have come to do him honor have been invited. On Wednesday, June 27th, the Senate of the University will invite the visitors of the University staff to sail down the Clyde. The students of the University also invite the students' delegates from other universities to a similar trip. Representative scientific men—about fifty in number—from America and the British colonies, and from all the European countries, and about 150 from the United Kingdom, have signified their intention to be present.

In addition to the expeditions from Amherst College and from the Lick Observatory, University of California, parties are on their way from London and Paris to observe the eclipse of the sun from Japan. The English party includes the Astronomer Royal, Prof. Christie, Prof. Turner, of Oxford, and Captain Hills, of the Royal Engineers. M. Deslandres has charge of the French expedition.

THE Mayor of Bristol, at the instance of a deputation representing University College, Bristol, and other scientific institutions of the city, has invited the British Association to meet at Bristol in 1898. The Association met at Bristol in 1836 and in 1875.

THE Executive Committee of the New York Zoological Society has decided to send Mr. Hornaday to Europe to inspect the zoological gardens of Germany, Belgium, Holland, France and England. A Scientific Council has been appointed consisting of the following members: William T. Hornaday, Chairman, Director New York Zoological Park; Madison Grant, Secretary New York Zoological Society; Prof. J. A. Allen, curator of mammalogy and ornithology. American Museum of Natural History; Frank M. Chapman, assistant curator; Prof. Henry F. Osborn, Da Costa professor of zoology, Columbia University; Prof. Gilman Thompson,

University of New York; Dr. Tarleton H. Bean, Superintendent New York Aquarium; Dr. George Bird, Grinnell, editor *Forest and Stream*; and William A. Stiles, Park Commissioner and editor of *Garden and Forest*. The Sinking Fund Commission of New York, authorized by the Legislature to set aside land for the Gardens of the Society, has postponed action on the application of the Society for the use of 261 acres of land in Bronx Park. Mayor Strong, it appears, is opposed to granting the land.

PROF. R. S. WOODWARD, Prof. R. H. Thurston and Judge Arthur P. Greely have consented to act as judges in the competition for prize essays on 'The Progress of Invention during the past fifty years,' proposed by the *Scientific American*.

WE learn from *Natural Science* that the following changes have recently been made on the staff of the British Geological Survey: A. Strahan, to be geologist on the English branch, in place of J. R. Dakyns, who has retired after 34 years' service; C. T. Clough, to be geologist on the Scottish branch, in place of the late Hugh Miller. The gentlemen are succeeded as assistant geologists by Mr. T. Crosbee Cantrill, B. Sc., and Mr. E. H. Cunningham-Craig, in England and Scotland respectively. Dr. Molen-graaf, of Amsterdam, whose work in South African geology is well known, has been appointed State Geologist by the Transvaal Government.

THE *British Medical Journal* for May 23d is a special number commemorating the Jenner Centennial, being entirely filled with interesting accounts of Jenner and the subsequent progress of vaccination.

DR. BASHFORD DEAN, Messrs. Calkins, Harrington, Griffin and a number of students from Columbia University are about to start for Port Townsend, Washington, and will spend the summer in study and research on Puget Sound.

THE Brooklyn Institute has undertaken to collect \$3,000 for the purchase of the William Wallace Tooker collection of Indian relics.

THE New York University has conferred the degree of LL.D. on Prof. I. C. Russell, of the

class of 1872, professor of geology in the University of Michigan.

PROF. ALBERT S. BICKMORE, of the American Museum of Natural History, has gone to the West Indies to collect materials for a course of lectures for teachers, to be delivered in the Museum in the autumn. Mr. Dwight L. Elmendorf is already in the Windward Islands, taking photographs for the illustrations of the lectures. The expenses of the trip will be paid by the State, and copies of these lectures will be furnished to the public schools in the seventy principal cities and villages of the State.

PROF. MAX MÜLLER was made a Privy Councillor on the Queen's birthday. It is said that Huxley is the only man of science previously admitted to the Council in recognition of scientific work.

SENATOR MORRILL, from the Committee on Finance, made on June 4th a favorable report on the joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to have made a scientific investigation of the fur-seal fisheries.

GERHARD ROHLFS, traveller and explorer, died on June 3d, at Godesberg, Prussia, aged 62.

THE daughters of Carl Marx are collecting material for a biography of their father.

ON the evening of May 19th Prince Henry of Orleans delivered a lecture before the Royal Geographical Society, on his journey between Talifu (Yun-nan) and Sadiya (Assam). This is the shortest and most direct route from China to India. It was, however, traversed with great difficulty and is not practicable for trade.

PROF. L. L. DYCHE, of the University of Kansas, has gone to Alaska with a view to Arctic exploration.

AT a meeting of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, on May 14th the Walker prize was conferred on Mr. H. J. Stiles and the Jacksonian prize on Dr. A. A. Kanthack.

ON May 26th Prof. T. G. Bonney began a course of two lectures at the Royal Institution on 'The Building and Sculpture of Western Europe' (the Tyndall lectures). On 28th Mr. Robert Munro, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, gave the first of two lec-

tures on 'Lake Dwellings,' and on Saturday, May 30th Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge, keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities, British Museum, began a course of two lectures on 'The Moral and Religious Literature of Ancient Egypt.' Prof. J. A. Fleming lectured on 'Electric and Magnetic Research on Low Temperatures.'

WE are glad to learn that the editor of *Appleton's Popular Science Monthly* has invited President Mendenhall to reply to the article in the June number by Mr. Herbert Spencer criticising the metric system.

THE Washington *Star* states that Major Powell, Engineer Commissioner of the District of Columbia, has applied to the President, through Gen. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, for the detail of an officer of the engineer corps for duty with the District government as an assistant to the Engineer Commissioner, to fill the vacancy caused by the detachment of Captain Gustav J. Fiebeger, recently appointed professor of military and civil engineering at the Military Academy.

DR. WILLIAM COLLINGRIDGE, medical officer of the port of London, has been appointed as the Milroy lecturer for 1897, before the Royal College of Physicians, of London.

DR. A. GUNTHER has been elected President of the London Linnean Society. The gold medal of the Society has this year been awarded to Prof. George James Allman.

PROF. DARCY W. THOMPSON, of the University of Dundee, who has been sent by the British government to investigate the condition of the fur seals on the Prybilov Islands, left Washington for Alaska on the 3d of June. He will be accompanied by a Canadian naturalist, Dr. Macoun. They will go to the Islands on the 'Albatross,' which leaves San Francisco about the middle of the month.

MR. CLARENCE B. MOORE, who may be addressed at 1321 Locust street, Philadelphia, has kindly offered to present to any incorporated historical or archaeological society applying to him, his works on 'Certain Sand Mounds of Dual County, Florida;' 'Two Mounds on Murphy Island, Florida,' and 'Certain Sand Mounds of the Ocklawaha River, Florida.'

PROF. C. JORDAN, author of 'Traité des Substitutions,' 'Cours d'Analyse,' etc., expects to visit America the latter part of June. He intends to spend about three months in America, visiting mines and universities.

THE twenty-second annual meeting of the American Neurological Association was held at the College of Physicians, Philadelphia, on June 3d, 4th and 5th, under the Presidency of Dr. F. X. Dercum. The next meeting will be held at Washington, D. C.

THE party from Cornell University which will embark with Lieutenant Peary on the Kite is as follows: R. S. Tarr, professor of dynamic geology and physical geography; A. C. Gill, professor of mineralogy and petrography; J. A. Bonstell, assistant in geology; T. L. Watson, fellow in geology; E. M. Kindle, scholar in paleontology, and J. O. Martin, special student in entomology. It is the purpose of the party to make as thorough a geological study as is possible in five or six weeks, of the region near the Devil's Thumb, at the south end of Melville Bay and in addition to this to make collections of flora and fauna. Another party will also sail with Lieutenant Peary, under the leadership of A. E. Burton, professor of civil engineering, in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This party will land at the great Umanak Fiord. They will make pendulum observations, natural history collections and study the glacial phenomena. Lieutenant Peary himself will proceed north as far as Cape Sabine at the entrance of Smith Sound. He will also endeavor to explore Jones sound. He will be accompanied by Mr. Albert Operti, the artist, who will take casts of the Cape York natives for the purpose of making models for the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

IN connection with the the Millennial Celebration at Buda-Pesth the University conferred the following honorary degrees on May 13th: The degree of Doctor of Medicine on Prof. J. S. Billings, of New York; Sir. Joseph Lister, London; Prof. R. Virchow, Berlin; Prof. Than, Buda-Pesth; Prof. Anders-Retzuis, Stockholm; Prof. Guido Baccelli, Rome; Prof. Eduard Roux, Paris: The degree of Doctor of Philosophy, on

Prof. P. Berthelot, Paris; Mr. Herbert Spencer, London; Lord Kelvin, Glasgow; Prof. W. Wundt, Leipzig; Prof. Max Müller, Oxford; Prof. Grimm, Berlin; Prof. Lajos Lóczy, Buda-Pesth; Prof. R. W. Bunsen, Heidelberg; Prof. J. Bryce, Oxford; Prof. W. R. v. Hartel, Vienna; Prof. Hugo Schuchardt, Graz.

IN the last part issued of Engle und Prantl's *Natürliche Pflanzenfamilien*, Prof. Britton has been honored by the dedication to him of another genus, *Brittonastrum*, Briquet, in the Family Labiatae. There are six or seven species in the group, natives of the southwestern United States and Mexico.

PROF. J. J. THOMPSON was announced to give the Reade lecture at Cambridge University on June 10th, the subject being the Röntgen rays.

AT a meeting of the Paris Academy, on May 4th, M. Guinkoff stated that he had succeeded in photographing the retina. The experiments were made on himself, and he had obtained a photograph of the retina of his left eye with an exposure of two seconds. The process is not more trying to the patient than the ordinary examination with the ophthalmoscope and leaves a permanent record.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

THE University of Pennsylvania has received \$100,000 from Mr. Alfred C. Harrison, and \$10,000 each from Mr. John H. Converse, Mr. William P. Henszey and an anonymous donor.

AT a recent meeting of the Board of Regents of the University of Michigan reductions were made in some of the salaries, and several instructors were dismissed. A resolution was adopted that where any department has two or more full professors, only the senior by date of appointment shall at any time receive a salary of more than \$2,500. Law and medical professors, if they practice their respective professions, are to receive \$2,000, and if they do not, \$2,500. The psychological laboratory has been discontinued for one year.

IT is expected that Rev. George L. Perin will succeed Rev. Orello Cone as President of Buchtel College. Dr. John Clarence Lee has been